

ARTICLES

OF

Inquiry for the Visitation of the

REVEREND

JOHN BURTON,

ARCHDEACON of

CLEVELAND.

Anno Domini, 1687.



YORK,

Printed by John Bulkley, 1687.

ARTICLE

OF

Industry for the Visitation of the

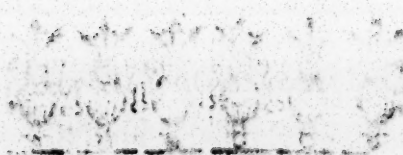
REVEREND

JOHN BURTON

A BISHOP OF

OF NEWLAND

NEW YORK, 1887.



NEW YORK

Printed by John Burdett, 1887.



An Advertisement.

THe Parson, Vicar, or Curate of every Parish, and the Church Wardens, and Side-men, are to meet together, and to Reade over these Articles divers times; to deliberate and confer about them, and the Answering of them. Then, after they have duly considered them, they are to Write their Answer. or Presentment (with the Names of all Offenders) unto every Article particularly, advisedly, and truly according to their Consciences: and the same so Written, they are all of them to bring to the Visitation, and to deliver up under their Hands: and the Church-wardens and Sidemen also upon their Oaths: And they are to consider, That as the true discharging of their Office is the chief means whereby Publick disorders, sins and offences in their Parishes may be reformed. So if they willfully refuse or neglect to present such as any of them know, or have heard by publique Fame to be guilty: then they must expect both to give an account thereof to God, and to be proceeded against by their Ecclesiastical Superiours as in cases of Omission of their duty if not as violaters of their Oaths.

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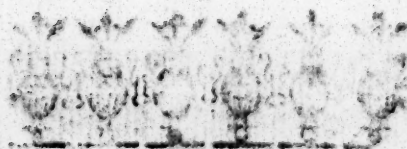
REVEREND

JOHN BURTON

A DEACON OF

CLIFVELAND.

New Dominion, 1687.



NEW YORK.

Printed by John Barker, 1687.



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ARTICLES of Visitation and Inquiry,
within the Arch-Deaconry of Cleveland,
Anno Dom. 1687.

Titul. v.

Concerning Churches, Chappels, Church or Chappel
Yards, their Ornaments Utensils, and other
things thereto belonging.



IS your Church or Chappel Consecrated to the
Worship of God, and decently kept separate
from all prophane and common uses? Are the
Roofes, Walls, Pavements and Windows there-
of, as also of your Chancel in good and suffici-
ent repairs? Are the Ten Commandments Lords
Prayer and the Creed, drawn out in fair Letters, and the
Kings Armes decently set up in a convenient place? Are the
Bells and Ropes and Bell-frames thereof in good condition and
fit for publick Use? Is no School taught therein?

II. Have you made Assessments for the Repaires of your
Church and other things relating thereto? and are there any
parishioners, or others obliged to contribute, that refuse
to pay the proportion assessed on them? You must present
all such.

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III. Have you a Font of Stone decently covered, standing towards the lower end of the Church for the administration of Baptism? have you a decent Communion Table covered in the time of Divine Service with a Carpet of Silk or other Stuff meet for that purpose and with a fair linnen Cloth at the time of Administration; is it so placed that the parishioners may most conveniently come to communicate with the Minister; and have you a handsome Cup of Silver for the Wine with a Cover for the same, and a Patten to put the Bread on; and have you one or more Flaggons of pewter, or better Mettle, and all other things necessary for the Celebration of divine Service and Administration of the Sacraments? as also a decent Basin to receive alms for the poor, and other devotions of the people?

IV. Are your Reading desk and Pulpit conveniently set up and placed for the Use of publick prayer, and preaching? and hath your pulpit Desk a cushion, or covering fit thereto? and are the seats for the parishioners decent and Uniform, are there none Irregularly built to the prejudice of others, or defacing the Church? are your parishioners placed in them without offence, or contention? If not name the particulars.

V. Have you in your Church, or chappel, the Common prayer Book of the largest Volume lately set forth by publick authority? and have you the Bible in Folio fairly bound, of King James his Translation, the two Books of Homilies, and a book of Canons? Have you also a decent Surplice, one, or more, as there is need, for your Parson, Vicar, Curate or Lecturer (if you have any) to wear in the time of publick Ministration?

VI. Have you a Book of Parchment, where be Registered the Christnings, Marriages, and Burials in your Parish, and another of paper, wherein to Note the Names of strange Preachers, according to the Injunction of the two and fiftieth Cannon, And are they Registered therein accordingly? Have you a strong Chest with three Locks, wherein to preserve your Church Furniture, and these Books? and a Box conveniently placed for receiveing and securing Alms given by Charitable persons towards the relief of the poor? And have you the Table of degrees prohibited in Marriage, set forth 1563. and so placed in your Church that any one may come to Read them? Are the House and out-Houses of your Minister in good and sufficient Repair? Doth he preserve the Gardens, Orchards, and Gleab, thereto belonging, without selling, wasteing, changing, or any way damnifying the same.

VII. Have you a perfect Terrier or Survey of the Houses out-Houses, Gardens, Orchards, Meadows, and other Land or Gleab belonging to your parsonage or Vicarage, Setting forth their butts and bounds? Likewise an Inventory, or true note of all such portions of Tithes, Rents, pensions, or other Emoluments; as belong to your Church or Chapel? are they safely kept? where, and by whome? Are true Copies thereof transmitted into the Bishops Registry, there to be preserved? if not, let it be done with all care and convenient speed, signed by the Minister, Church-wardens, and other able Parishioners.

VIII. Hath any Augmentation been made to your Vicarage or Curate by any Arch-Bishop, Bishop, Dean and Chapter, Prebendary, or other Ecclesiastical persons, upon their renewing the Lease of the Rectory, or Tythes impropriate or appropriate? Are the said Augmentations duly paid? or after once paid, have they or any of them been detained

detained or withheld? are the Leases; or Grants, whereby such augmentations are made, or in the substance of the agreement for the same (though not exprest or mentioned in the said Lease or Grant) fairely entered in a book of parchment, and kept by the Register of the respective Arch-Bishop, Bishop, or Dean and Chapter, according to an Act of Parliament made in the 29th. year of his late Majesties Reign, intituled, an Act for confirming and perpetuating Augmentations.

IX. Are there any Hospitals, Almshouses or Schooles publickly indowed, within your Parish? if any such, are they govern'd according to the true intent of the Founders, and the Revenues thereof managed with care and faithfulness? Is there any pension, stipend, or gift made to Pious and Charitable uses detained or misemployed within your parish, and by whome?

Is the Church-yard decently kept, well fenced to keep out Swine, and other noysome Cattle, and no encroachment made thereupon, by building or otherwise? and are there no Excommunicate Persons suffered to be Buried in your Church or Church-yard? You must present all such Offences and defects as are here inquired of: And if you be Chappel-Wardens you must present all such Defects respectively as are in your Chappel, or Chappel-yard.

Titul. II.

Inquiries about the Parson, Vicar, Curate, or Lecturer.

IS your Minister, Lecturer, or Curate (to the best of your Observation) a Man of Sober, Chast, Just Unblamable Life? Doth he Use Canonical Modest, and decent Apparell, according to his ability? Doth he re-

fort (without just cause) to Taverns, or Ale-houses, to give himself to any base or servile Labour, or to drinking, or spending his time Idely by Day or by Night, in playing, at Dice, Cards, Tables or any other unlawful Games? Doth he (so far as you know or have heard) make any Clandestine Mariages, either without Bannes, thrice published, or License Lawfully obtained in that behalfe, or at undue times, that is, before Eight, or after Twelve of the Clock in the Morning; or in undue places, Celebrate the same, that is in any other place, then the Parish Church, or Chappel? doth he (having convenient warning given) refuse to Bury the Dead at usual times, according to the Order prescribed by the Book of Common prayer? And doth he bury any that Dye unbaptized, or be excommunicate, or have laid violent hands upon themselves with that Office? And doth, or hath he made false Certificates of the performance of penances, or Declarations present what you know or have heard thereof.

II. Doth your Person, Vicar, or Curate, Reade the Office of Common Prayer at the accustomed hours of Morning and Evening Service, on Sundays, and Holydayes, and the Letany on Wednesdayes, and Frydayes? And doth he were a Surplice while he performes those or other Offices, mentioned in the Common-Prayer-Book? And doth he in time of Divine Service upon Sundays bid such Holy-days, and Fasting-days appointed by the Church, as shall happen the Week following; Doth he also reade the Service appointed for the (30th. h.) of *January*. (29th. of *May* and (5th. of *November*, with the Proclamations relating thereto? And doth he keep yearly Perambulations in Rogation week? Doth he Preach a Sermon every Sunday, or procure a Sermon then to be preached? Or else sometimes read one of the Homilies, which the Church hath appointed? And doth he before his Sermon, Homilies,

or Lectures pray for the whole Catholick Church, the Kings most excellent Majesty, and others as is directed by the 55th. Canon.

IV Doth your Minister diligently upon Sundays, and Holy-days, after the Second Lesson at Evening prayer, openly in the Church, instruct and Examine the Youth and Ignorant persons of your parish in the Catechism set forth in the Book of Common prayer: And do all Fathers and Mothers, Masters and Mistresses, cause their Children, Servants, and Apprentices, which have not Learned the Catechism, to come to the Church at the time appointed, obediently to hear, and to be ordred by your said Minister untill they have learned the same? And doth your Minister (to the end the people may the better understand, and be more thoroughly acquainted with the Doctrine and Discipling of the Church of England) publicly read over, unto the people the Book of *Canons* at least once, and the 39 Articles twice every year.

V. Doth your Minister Celebrate the Lords Supper, in the Church, according to the Office prescribed in the Common prayer book, so often every year that the Parishioners may receive yearly three times at least whereof *Easter* to be one? Doth he Baptise such Infants of your parish according to the Common-prayer-book, upon warning given before, as are brought on Sundayes, or Holy-dayes, to the Church, with God-fathers and God mothers? Doth he Baptize Infants at home in case of danger and necessity, and not otherwise? doth he visit the Sick at their houses, when upon lawfull summons he is required thereto? Doth he give them the Holy Communion, if duly prepared for it, and desirous of it? And doe all such other pious duties as the state of the Sick person require? And doth he Exhort them to brotherly love, and works of Charity, and if they be able, to bequeath a portion to pious uses?

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6. Doth your Parson or Vicar, keep a Curate? Is he of a good life, and accounted of sufficient Learning? Is he allowed by the Bishop, and can you tell whether the said Curate have a competent allowance, according to the value of the Living? declare your knowledge herein, doth, your Parish maintain a Lecturer? Is he Licenced by the Bishop? Doth he read the Divine Service of Common-prayer the first Lecture day of every Month, wearing a Surplice and is he present at Divine Service every other Lecture day? And doth any who is not a Deacon at least (Episcopally Ordained) presume to read the Common-prayer in your Church or Chappel, or to Baptize Publicly or privately, or to assist in the Administration of the holy Communion, or take upon him to Preach or Expound the holy Scripture in your Church or Chappel? If the Parson, Vicar, Curate or Lecturer fail of their duty in any of these inquiries above mentioned, you are to present him, or them, so offending.

Titul. III.

Inquires about the Parishioners.

I. **D**Oe all your Parishioners of due age resort to Divine Service, and Sermons in your Church on Sundays, and Holy-dayes. if they be not reasonably letted? Whom doe you observe wilfully, negligently, or causelessly to absent themselves, or not to come to Church ordinarily till the latter end of the Service or when it is ended? Doe they, or any of their servants occupy themselves unnecessarily in the servile work of their ordinary Callings on Sundayes or Holy-days? doe they open their Shops or sell any Wares on those Dayes? Doe Vintners Viaguallers, Innekeepers, or others receive any into their Houses to Tipple or wast their time Idly on those dayes,

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especially

especially in time of Divine Service, except they be Travellers, that are in their Journey upon necessary occasions? present all such.

2. Doe your Parishioners, in time of Divine Service, Sermon, or Homily, behave themselves Reverently, Men, and Youths with their Hatts off, both Sexes giving due attention, none disturbing Holy Duties, by Talking, Walking, Removing, going out, or giving any other Offence? And doe they use Reverent postures, as you find it appointed in the Rubrick of the Common-Prayer-Book? present all such as you observe to be irreverent, or negligent herein.

3. Such as may be discerned to be Recufants, Hereticks, or Shismaticks, and to absent themselves from the publick Assemblies, Prayers, or Service of the Church are to be presented. Doe any of your Parishioners usually frequent other parish Churches, and absent themselves from their own? Doe you Note such and present their Name.

4. What Persons are there above the age of sixteen years in your parish that do not come the Lords Supper, to partake of it reverently on their knees, three times every Year at the least, the Feast of Easter, or the time thereabouts being one? Doe you to the best of your knowledge, observe such, and present them.

5. Are there any in your parish that keep their Children, unbaptized? Inquire diligently, and return their parents or Governours Names, and the List of those Children, by such Names as you can learn that they are ordinarily called. What Women, that have been safely Delivered, refuse to come to Church in due time, to partake of the Office of Thanksgiveing, after the Order of the Church of England, set down in the Common-Prayer-Book doe any of your parishioners refuse to bring their Dead to be decently Buried.

ried, after the Service of the Church, in their own Church, or Church-yard? Or if they carry their Dead away to be Interred in some other Place, and have they his Certificate? Doe you take Notice of such, Inquire concerning them of your Minister and Present them.

6. Have any within your Parish been Married without Bannes thrice asked, or lawfull Lycense in that behalf obtained? what Marriages have been solemnized out of your Church, or at unlawful hours, or, in unlawful places? Declare what you know herein. Such are to be Presented as are known or much suspected to be Incestuous, or Married within Incestuous, or prohibited degrees of Blood. Likewise you ought to present known Adulterers, Fornicators, Blasphemers, common Swearers, Drunkards, Sorcerers, or Resorters to Sorcerers; Doe you present all such, or those who are defamed and suspected of such crimes..

Titul. 4.

Inquires about Church Officers, and other Persons.

I Doe your Parish Clarke and Sexton (if you have one) doe the duties of their Office decently and diligently and with respect and obedience towards the Minister? Are they of honest life and conversation? Is your Parish Clark duely chosen by the Minister and Licensed by the Ordinary? Is he aged twenty years? can he write and read? doth he orderly make responses? as required in the Service.

2. Is the Master of your Free-School or any other School in your Parish Licensed by the Bishop, or Ordinary meet for that.

that Office, as well for his sober and honest conversation, as for his Learning and his teaching, and also for his Soundness in the true Religion? Doth he Examine and instruct his Schollers in the Catechisme set forth in the Book of Common-Prayer? Doth he both himself diligently repair to the Church upon Sundays and Holy-days, and also see that his Schollars do the like and that they behave themselves quietly and soberly during all the time of Divine Service, and Sermons? Doth any School-master or other person instruct, or Teach youth in any private house or Family, being not Licensed, or not repairing to the Church as aforesaid?

3. Doe any in your Parish practise Physick, Chirurgery or as a Midwife, being not thereunto Licensed by lawful Authority?

4. Are your Church-wardens and Side-men chosen according to the 89. and 90 Canon? do they not continue in their place longer then a year, except they be chosen again? Doe your Church-wardens duly make Assessments for the necessary uses of the Church and within a Moneth after at the most before the Ministers and the Parishioners, give up a just accompt of all such money as they have received and also what particularly they have bestowed in reparations, and otherwaies for the use of the Church, and truly deliver up to the Parishioners whatsoever money or other things of right belonging to the Church, or Parish remain in their hands upon the said Accompt, that they may be delivered over by them to the next Church-wardens by Bill indented?

5. Doe both the Church-wardens and Sidemen diligently see that all the Parishioners duly resort to the Church upon all Sundays and Holy-days, and there continue the whole-time of Divine Service, and that none walk or stand idely, or talke in or about the Church during that time? Doe they admonish

admonish such as are negligent, (and if they reform not) present them to the Ordinary,

V.I And do they or other fit persons appointed for that purpose, whilst the Priest is Reading the sentences for the Offertory, at the Communion gather and receive the Almes for the Poor, and other devotions of the People in a decent Basin, to be provided by the Parish, and do they bring it to the Priest, and doth he humbly present and place it upon the holy Table? Are such Aims disposed of to pious and charitable uses as the Minister and Church-wardens think fit, otherwise as the Ordinary doth appoint?

Doe you know any other matter or crime of Ecclesiasticall cognizance fit to be reformed which is not here expressed, or inquired of in these Articles? you ought likewise to present the same.

The Minister also of every Parish may and ought to joyn with the Church-wardens in Presenting Offences: And if the Church-wardens be so irreligious as not to do it the Minister himself ought to present the same by Vertue of the 113. Canon.

FINIS.